

**Young Swallow Perching on *Varanus*.**—At Yarlamoola Mill on Mileura Station, via Cue, on May 4, 1960, I saw a fully-fledged chick of the Welcome Swallow (*Hirundo neorena*) perched on the hind leg of a Bungarra (*Varanus gouldi*) which was clinging on the wall of the well just above the water line, about 20 feet below the surface. Evidently the chick had fallen from the nest in the well easing near the top. The parent birds were still feeding the chick on the goanna's leg as well as one in the nest.

Several days later I visited the mill and saw both chicks in the same positions, the goanna apparently not having changed its site. In a week's time I again inspected the wall and found that both of the young birds had departed. It is quite a common sight to see goannas in the wells during the summer months.

—T. C. SCOTT, Subiaco.

**Association of Young and Adult Water Dragons (*Physignathus longirostris*).**—One day during August 1960 I visited Wilyun mill, on Mileura Station, via Cue, in the course of my work and was present there for four to five hours. Wilyun is an old shepherd's well situated in a creek and is shallow and quite open with a small stub-post fence around. On my arrival I noticed an adult Water Dragon on the edge of the well surrounded by six young Water Dragons each about five inches long. These young were more or less constantly associated with the adult during this period; sometimes climbing on its back, and were constantly feeding on flies and other insects present. Also the young had developed the characteristic "saluting" present in the adult. This "saluting" is the raising of one of the fore-limbs. The association of young reptiles with adults appears to have been rarely reported.

—T. C. SCOTT, Subiaco.

**Morels in Abundance.**—In August 1961 among the leaf litter of the burnt karri forests in the Augusta-Karridale area there were hundreds of fruiting bodies of edible Morels (*Morchella* sp.). So far no published record has been found of the occurrence in Western Australia of this fungus. There are two other collections in the Mycology Collection of the Botany Department of the University of Western Australia; one labelled Ludlow, 1942, N. Burbidge, and the other, of two specimens found in August, 1959, on the edge of a path in the valley below Canning Dam.

From the abundance of the Augusta-Karridale specimens and their occurrence in the other localities, it is probable that Morels will be found, if searched for, in many other places around Perth and in the South-West. They are known to occur on burnt as well as disturbed soil, and are said to have been seen in a vegetable garden at Augusta. A few species are recorded from the Eastern States and a number of species (six or more) are well known in Europe and North America.

The Augusta-Karridale specimens vary from 2.5 inches high and are up to an inch in width. The stalks are white, cream or with



*Morchella* sp., Canning Dam, August 1959 x  $\frac{1}{2}$ .

a pinkish tinge, the chambered more or less conical heads fawn or pale brown.

For many centuries in Europe Morels have been gathered and eaten. The caps (not the stalks) are cooked and have a delicate and distinctive flavour, something like that of mushrooms. They are used fresh or dried, alone or as a flavouring.

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## CORRECTIONS

In the series, "Natural History Notes from Jigalong, North-Western Australia," in volume 7, the following corrections are necessary:

No. 7, p. 176, line 5 from bottom, Little Crow no. 100-04130 was banded on June 20, not 30 as printed.

No. 8, p. 198, in the upper table (Mammals), the scientific name of the Camel should read *Camelus dromedarius*, not *C. bactrianus*.

In the article, "Some Aboriginal Sites in the Murchison District of Western Australia," vol. 8, no. 1, p. 3, Fig. 3 has been printed upside down.